

“A BETTER MAN”

Gregory could've ended up struggling on the streets . . .

Gregory couldn't believe it. Just like that, he became homeless.

“I was caring for my ex-wife and living in her home. But when the government seized her house, I was forced to leave,” says Gregory.

The home had belonged to their family for 50 years. Gregory's children were raised there. Losing it felt like losing a legacy. “I felt like I had been robbed,” he says.

Angry and alone, Gregory began looking for any option that wouldn't end in struggling on the streets. “I came across the Mission,” he says. “When I walked through the doors, they didn't talk down to me.”

“I began to recognize that maybe, just maybe, a catastrophic event could turn into a blessing.”

Because you give, Gregory's story doesn't end with homelessness.

Continued inside ▶



YOU gave Gregory a place to rebuild! (Continued from pg. 1)

He's completed the Fresh Start program and is now participating in the workforce development program—hands-on training that moves men toward self-sufficiency and purposeful employment.

“The Mission, without question, has made me a better man than I ever hoped to be,” says Gregory. “And I still feel myself scaling upward to be even better.”

Through discipleship programs and a strong community of men, Gregory has developed patience, endurance, structure, communication skills, life skills and a deep understanding of Scripture.

“The Bible is full of life skills that I'm applying to my

life,” Gregory says. “I've entered a peace, joy and love that I've never felt before in my life. I'm free from my past sins. And I now know I can't do anything without the power of the Holy Spirit.”

Gregory is taking steps toward securing his own housing. His dream? To build a beautiful legacy. “I want to put my family back together,” says Gregory. “I want them to be strong.”

Without the Mission—without your generosity—Gregory says his life would be “completely chaotic.” But because you give and pray, Gregory will walk out of the Mission's doors forever changed.

“The Mission, without question, has made me a better man than I ever hoped to be.” — Gregory



Want more restoration stories like Gregory's?

Gregory is just one of many people who found freedom from homelessness because of your generosity. To discover more stories of change like his, scan the QR code with your mobile device or go to missiondc.org/your-impact/stories-of-change



Every story is a testimony to your generosity!



What good does an Easter meal really do?

You hear us say it all the time: A meal is more than a meal. But does a meal really do more than fill an empty stomach?

In someone's “How will I make it through?” moment, your gift of a meal opens the door to . . .

Stability for men through our Restoration & Transformation Program. When you provide meals, men find a chance to break the cycle of unhealthy behaviors that keep them trapped in homelessness. The RTP leads individuals into physical, mental and spiritual health.

Help for families at the Comprehensive Family Resource Center. Many D.C. area households have no safety net to fall back on when poverty hits. At the CFRC, you make job training, social workers, parenting classes, health care and so much more available under one roof.

Transformational resources at Mission: NOVA. Thanks to you, the Mission's Northern Virginia expansion is meeting the specific needs of local families at a one-stop location. You open the door to community, addiction recovery resources, clinics, legal aid, ESL classes and everything else a family might need to regain stability.



A hunger for real hope



JOE METTIMANO
President & CEO

How do you hold on to hope when your job isn't enough to pay the bills?

Or if you suddenly find yourself homeless like

Gregory? How do you hold on to hope when you can barely afford to feed your children even one meal a day?

Men, women and children across the D.C. area are struggling to hold on to hope. Your generosity meets them in the middle of their crisis with hope—in the form of a hot meal, safe night of shelter, ESL class or bag of groceries.

You and I know the unwavering love of Jesus can transform any hopeless story into a beautiful testimony. But many struggling people in our community don't know this Good News. They think they're too far gone into homelessness . . . poverty . . . broken relationships . . . addiction.

But you also give people in need a hope that will never fade at the end of the day—hope in our Savior, Jesus.

The practical, proven care you make possible at the Mission opens the door to knowing the Perfecter of our Faith. What better time than Easter to satisfy not just physical hunger, but spiritual hunger? *A hunger for real hope?*

Thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus across the D.C. area!



Every \$3.21 provides a way out of homelessness

Your life probably won't change if someone in our D.C. area goes to bed hungry tonight. But what if you could change their life forever?

It's so simple.

Between now and Easter Sunday, April 20, every \$3.21 you give will provide an Easter meal and practical, proven care that lifts someone out of poverty.

If your heart breaks at the thought of a man, woman or child struggling to survive another day in hunger or homelessness, please send your best gift now. An Easter meal you provide is all it takes to open the door to a new life—and a chance to know the redeeming love of Jesus!

Make a difference for years to come



Expand your family circle

Married or single, parent or not, you can leave a lasting legacy by adding a ministry to your estate plan as one of your heirs. Join these two people who are impacting generations beyond their lifetime:

ALAN NAIMAN. A social worker, Alan served as a foster parent and was the main caregiver for his disabled brother. When he died in 2018, Alan left \$11 million to charities that directly meet children's needs.

JANE KESSON. Jane, a music teacher, left a gift in her will to the Philadelphia Orchestra. They use that gift to fund teacher workshops and concerts for schoolchildren in honor of Jane.

Neither Alan nor Jane ever married or had children of their own. So they expanded the definition of family to include causes that were important to them. You can do the same.

For the full version of this article, request a FREE copy of "Is it Time to Expand Your Family Circle?" by contacting Megan Schmoll at (202) 745-7118 ext. 219 or mschmoll@missiondc.org.

Give now to share meals and restorative care with people in need this Easter!

3 EASY WAYS TO CHANGE A LIFE WITH A MEAL

1 GIVE BY MAIL by sending your gift and reply form in the enclosed envelope.

2 GIVE ONLINE by visiting missiondc.org/MarchNewsletter25

3 SCAN HERE with your mobile device.

